

CLAIMS

The embodiments of the invention in which an exclusive property or privilege is claimed are defined as follows:

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1. A computer-implemented method for proactive global trade and logistics management comprising:

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(a) employing a centralized global multi-lingual data repository schema comprising data for generating trade, finance, and transportation documents, transmissions to government authorities, an executable plan for movement of goods, tracking performance of orders and deliveries, verifying national security and compliance to regulations;

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(b) utilizing the method of inputting and storing of time sensitive and constant pre-classified and other pre-existing data necessary for all trade, finance, and logistics processes on the product/catalog/SKU level;

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(c) maintaining said product data and using it for automation of trade, finance, and logistics processes;

(d) collecting and inputting to the management system estimated and actual trade, finance, and logistics data, said data being derived by an automated processes from real enterprise data at the points of origin;

(e) monitoring, verifying, and requesting missing mandatory said input data;

(f) utilizing ping data selectively for determining if and/or when the executable workflow is to be revised during said period of execution by said managing system, such that

depending upon a magnitude of change, as represented by said input managing data, to
said executable plan, said managing modules are selectively employed; and
(g) notifying related participants of changing conditions based on said determining.

5 2. A method according to claim 1, further comprising using pre-existing and said input data
to determine the most effective rates, carriers, routes and sources of goods.

3. A method according to claim 2, further comprising using pre-existing and said input data
to calculate consolidation, deconsolidation, and transportation requirements, and delivery
10 methods.

4. A method according to claims 1,2, or 3 further comprising:

(a) using said product and input data (managing information) to generate export trade,
15 finance, and logistics documents, determine and verify compliance requirements and
electronically transmit cross-border compliance and security data to respective
national government authorities, pay regulated fees and taxes, obtain rights of passage
of goods;

(b) using product and said input data (managing information) to generate import trade,
20 finance, and logistics documents, determine and verify compliance requirements and
electronically transmit cross-border compliance data to respective national
government authorities, pay regulated duties, fees, and taxes, obtain the release of
goods;

(c) using input managing data and pre-determined respective national government authorities regulations perform post entry processes, such as drawback, reconciliation, and protests; and

(d) process and archive input managing data, supporting reports, images, and documents in accordance with pre-determined respective national government authorities regulations.

5. A method according to claims 1, 2, 3, or 4 further comprising using said product and input data managing information to calculate and continuously upgrade estimated and actual landed costs and tracking information.

6. A method according to claims 1 or 4 further comprising implementing a revised executable workflow in response to "if . . . then" rules imposed on the input managing data.

7. A method according to claim 1, further comprising using the management system for generating the executable workflow and controlled by managing events, statuses, and binding documents.

8. A method according to claim 7, further comprising monitoring the executable workflow to accommodate any number of scheduling new managing events, statuses, or binding documents changing the time, and updating a previously scheduled time.

9. A computer-implemented method for using proactive multi-national integrated trade and logistics management system claim 1 further comprising:

(a) a logistics management system of at least one centralized database connected to the management system comprising managing information grouped into public and private segments including:

(i) means for enforcing security privileges to access managing information in the database; and

(ii) means for analyzing managing information and making it available to associated managing system components in the formats and views usable by said system components;

(iii) means for collecting and distributing managing information in the database over electronic connections to other computerized systems and through manual data entry using specialized user interfaces;

(iv) means and schema for storing and retrieving collected managing information;

(v) means for detecting changes in the database managing information and modifying behavior of affected system components;

(vi) means and schema for storing and retrieving detected changes in managing information in the database;

(vii) means for communicating of said changes to specified stakeholders;

(viii) means for pre-classifying and valuating products for cross-border transactions, both import and export;

(ix) means for specifying financial and compliance information on the product level and setting up triggers to activate managing events and statuses to configure an executable workflow;

(x) means for specifying transportation information on the products to select favorable freight and storage rates and routes;

(xi) means and schema for storing and retrieving said products information in the database;

(xi) means and schema for collection, storing, and retrieving homeland security data in the database; and

(xi) means and algorithms to search said homeland security data in the database.

(10) The system of claim 2 further comprising means and schema to store transportation managing information, and algorithms that using said transportation managing information to determine the most effective rates, carriers, routes and sources of goods.

(11) The system of claim 3 further comprising means using logistics information to calculate consolidation, deconsolidation, transportation requirements, delivery methods, generate and distribute documents automatically, and file security data electronically.

(12) The system of claim 4 further comprising means using managing information to manage said trade, finance, and logistics processes including:

(i) means to generate export trade, finance, and logistics documents, determine and verify compliance requirements and electronically transmit cross-border compliance and security data to respective national government authorities, pay regulated fees and taxes, obtain rights of passage of goods;

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(ii) means to generate import trade, finance, and logistics documents, determine and verify compliance requirements and electronically transmit cross-border compliance data to respective national government authorities, pay regulated duties, fees, and taxes, obtain the release of goods;

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(iii) means to perform post entry processes, such as drawback, reconciliation, and protests; and

(iv) means and algorithms to process and archive managing data, supporting reports, images, and documents in accordance with pre-determined respective national government authorities regulations.

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(13) The system of claim 5 further comprising means, schema, and algorithms to calculate and continuously upgrade estimated and actual landed costs and tracking information.

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(14) The system of claim 6 further comprising means and algorithms for implementing a revised executable workflow in response to "if . . . then" rules imposed on the input managing data.

(15) The system of claim 7 further comprising means for generating the executable workflow and controlled by managing events, statuses, and binding documents.

- 5 (16) The system of claim 8 further comprising means for monitoring the executable workflow to accommodate any number of scheduling new managing events, statuses, or binding documents changing the time, and updating a previously scheduled time.